## In the Claims

Please cancel claim 2 and 3. Please amend claims 1, 4, and 6 and add claims 14 and 15 as follows:

1. (twice amended)

A leash handle assembly for use with a leash comprising:

a hollow housing having an outward-facing surface, an opening and forming a grip;

a leash retainer mechanism located within the hollow housing;

a fastener affixed to said housing;

a storage container formed with said opening of said hollow housing; at least one container <u>adapted to receive said fastener</u>, <u>said container</u> releasably connected <u>to said outward-facing surface</u> [to the outside] of said housing <u>by said</u> fastener;

whereby said dog leash is attached to said leash retainer mechanism [thereby]

wherein [providing] portable storage is provided within said opening of said

hollow housing of the dog leash and removable containers are provided with the

dog leash.

- 2. (canceled)
- 3 (canceled)
- 4. (twice amended) A leash handle assembly according to claim [3] <u>1</u> further including a cover removably attached to said storage compartment.
- 5. (previously presented) The leash handle assembly of claim 1 wherein said leash retainer

- mechanism includes a spring-load pin which has an engaged and a disengaged position.
- 6. (twice amended) A leash handle according to claim [2] 1 wherein said first container and said second container each form a dish and have a removable lid.
- 7. (cancelled)

- 8. 8-12 (withdrawn due to restriction requirement)
- 13. (allowed) A leash handle assembly comprising:
  - a housing forming a hollow grip;
  - a leash retainer mechanism within said housing;
  - a first compartment receiving said leash retainer mechanism, said first compartment having a forward-facing end and a backward facing end;
  - a storage compartment having at top end and a forward facing end, said storage compartment formed within said hollow grip, said backward facing end of said first compartment being joined to said forward facing end of said storage compartment, said leash attachment mechanism being partitioned from said storage compartment, and said storage compartment having an outer surface, the joined said first compartment and said storage compartment having a first side and a second side;
  - a first opening in said forward facing end of said first compartment;
  - a second opening into said storage compartment through said top end;
  - a second opening into said storage compartment through said top end;
  - a first container and first container retaining mechanism, said retaining mechanism mounted onto said outer surface of said first side of said compartment; and
  - a second container and a second container retaining mechanism, wherein first container retaining mechanism includes flange to engage said perimeter lip of either said containers

dish, a rotating latch being mounted on said outer surface of said first side and said second side <u>located</u> opposite from said flange <u>at</u> a distance equal to the outer diameter of said lip.

- 14. (new) A leash handle assembly for use with a leash comprising:
  - a hollow housing having a flange formed on its outward-facing surface, said housing including an opening and forming a grip;
  - a leash retainer mechanism located within the hollow housing;
  - a storage container within said opening of said hollow housing;
  - at least one container each having a lip for engaging said flange;

whereby said dog leash is attached to said leash retainer mechanism wherein portable storage is provided within said opening of said hollow housing of the dog leash and containers are removably attached to the outside of said housing.

15. (new) A leash handle assembly according to claim 14 further including at least one rotating latch mounted on said outer surface of said first housing for removably securing said containers to said housing.

## Clean Copy of the Claims

- 1. A leash handle assembly for use with a leash comprising:
  - a hollow housing having an outward-facing surface, an opening and forming a grip;
  - a leash retainer mechanism located within the hollow housing;
  - a fastener affixed to said housing:
  - a storage container formed with said opening of said hollow housing; at least one container adapted to receive said fastener, said container releasably connected to said outward-facing surface of said housing by said fastener; whereby said dog leash is attached to said leash retainer mechanism wherein g] portable storage is provided within said opening of said hollow housing of the dog leash and removable containers are provided with the dog leash.
- 2. (canceled)
- 3 (canceled)
- 4. (twice amended) A leash handle assembly according to claim 1 further including a cover removably attached to said storage compartment.
- 5. (previously presented) The leash handle assembly of claim 1 wherein said leash retainer mechanism includes a spring-load pin which has an engaged and a disengaged position.
- 6. (twice amended) A leash handle according to claim 1 wherein said first container and said second container each form a dish and have a removable lid.
- 7. (canceled)
- 8-12 (withdrawn due to restriction requirement)

- 13. (allowed) A leash handle assembly comprising:
  - a housing forming a hollow grip;
  - a leash retainer mechanism within said housing;
  - a first compartment receiving said leash retainer mechanism, said first compartment having a forward-facing end and a backward facing end;
  - a storage compartment having at top end and a forward facing end, said storage compartment formed within said hollow grip, said backward facing end of said first compartment being joined to said forward facing end of said storage compartment, said leash attachment mechanism being partitioned from said storage compartment, and said storage compartment having an outer surface, the joined said first compartment and said storage compartment having a first side and a second side;
  - a first opening in said forward facing end of said first compartment;
  - a second opening into said storage compartment through said top end;
  - a first container and first container retaining mechanism, said retaining mechanism mounted onto said outer surface of said first side of said compartment; and
  - a second container and a second container retaining mechanism, wherein first container retaining mechanism includes flange to engage said perimeter lip of either said containers, a rotating latch being mounted on said outer surface of said first side and said second side located opposite from said flange at a distance equal to the outer diameter of said lip.
  - 14. (new) A leash handle assembly for use with a leash comprising:
    - a hollow housing having a flange formed on its outward-facing surface, said housing including an opening and forming a grip;
    - a leash retainer mechanism located within the hollow housing;

a storage container within said opening of said hollow housing; at least one container each having a lip for engaging said flange; whereby said dog leash is attached to said leash retainer mechanism wherein portable storage is provided within said opening of said hollow housing of the dog leash and containers are removably attached to the outside of said housing.

15. (new) A leash handle assembly according to claim 14 further including at least one rotating latch mounted on said outer surface of said first housing for removably securing said containers to said housing.